



Harlan County Board Minutes



Supervisors Room, Alma NE

Tuesday January 20th, 2015

The Harlan County Board of Supervisor's met in regular session Tuesday January 20th, 2015 with JD Schluntz, Max Schultz, Lonny Hanna, Rodney Metzger, Doug Horwart, Traci Dietz, and Gary Dunse. Also in attendance were County Clerk Janet Dietz, Road Superintendent Tim Burgeson, County Attorney Bryan McQuay, and Cathy House from the Harlan County Journal. Chairman Horwart called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and stated that there is a copy of the open meeting acts posted in the room and will be followed by the Board. Clerk Janet Dietz took all proceedings while the convened meeting was open to the public.

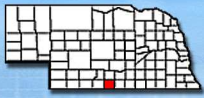
Chairman Horwart opened the meeting with a moment of silence in honor of Jan Stuhmer,(sister of Supervisor Lonny Hanna).

Minutes from the January 6th, 2015 and Reorganizational meeting January 20th, 2015 were reviewed. Chairman Horwart called for any additions or corrections. Motion made by Metzger 2nd by Dietz to accept the minutes as written. Roll call votes, District #1-JD. Schluntz-abstain (wasn't here), District #2- M. Schultz-yes, District #3- Hanna-yes, District #4- Metzger-yes, District #7-Dunse-yes, District # 6- Dietz-yes, District #5- Horwart-yes. Motion carried.

Clerk brought several claims to the Board. After Board review, motion made by Dunse, 2nd by JD. Schluntz to approve. Roll call votes, all ayes. Motion carried.

County Road Superintendent and Mike Rowe with Midwest Steele joined the meeting. Mike had been out to review the Stamford Bridge and came with options for the Board to review, and discuss. Discussion was held on steel, concrete, load rating, criteria, bidding and contractors. Mike proposed using steel, 30 foot x 90 foot Bridge with an estimated cost of \$350,000.00. County Board instructed Tim to follow up with proposals.

Several Veteran's, and members of the Harlan County Veterans committee joined the meeting. All are concerned with getting a Veterans Service Officer in Harlan County. Three members from the Harlan County Board are attending a Phelps County board meeting on January 27th, 2015 to see if the interlocal contract with Art Johnsen and Phelps County can



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be renewed. Discussion was having the Harlan County office open, and having someone here at least (2) times a month. Supervisor Hanna spoke of the Veterans Service Officer qualifications, hours per year required, training, and budget. Harlan County Board assured the Veterans attending the meeting that they are doing everything they can to get a VSO here in the courthouse, and will know more after the Phelps County Board meeting. Chairman thanked the Veterans for coming in.

CASA Executive Director Christina McIntire and Mel Brownrigg joined the meeting to provide the Board with cases/children served, volunteer numbers, and information about CASA.

Contryman Associates, Sarah Borchers, and Karl Kostbahn joined the meeting. They were in attendance to discuss with the Board the corrected listing of all debt and lease commitments for Harlan County. (2013 leased motor grader was added, no payments were made in the budget year) The list was prepared in lieu of reissuing revised financial statements for June 30, 2014. Chairman Horwart called for any questions. JD Schluntz asked about committed and restricted funds. Restricted funds are per state statute and county has no control, committed funds are county "control". JD. Schluntz asked why the differences in what Contrymans charge for their services with other counties. Karl explained, no two counties are alike. Sarah explained with each county there are different and or various work factors, pricing is set in the office, not by employees. With no other questions, the Board thanked them for the explanation.

At 11:30 the meeting turned to the County Health Insurance. Dan Duren, Benefit Management, joined the meeting and brought to the Board several options to consider. Clerk has been in touch with Benefit Management and was advised to move from CoOpportunity Health Insurance plan. Dan provided several plans to choose from. Discussion included Medicare buyout, out of pocket expense, HAS contributions, union notifications, and re-joining NACO. JD Schluntz questioned charging the employees. It was decided to hold a special meeting with employees for further discussion. Meeting will be January 27th at 4:00 p.m. (courthouse meeting room.)

At 1:10 p. m., it was decided to take a lunch break and reconvene at 1:45 p.m.

At 1:47.p.m. Chairman Horwart reconvened the meeting.



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County Road Superintendent re-joined the meeting to discuss preliminary bridge studies from Lance Harter, Oak Creek Engineering. Structure C004203205 on 711 Road would be #2,200.00, and Structure C004232615 on 714 Road would also be #2,200.00. (a complete copy is available in the County Road Department.) After discussion, motion was made by Dietz, 2nd by M. Schultz to accept the “bridge to tube” studies. Roll call votes, all ayes. Motion carried. Discussion was held on the Road 1& 6 year plan. County board members requested a copy to further study it. Tim has scheduled a public hearing for February 3rd, 2015 board meeting. Tim brought to the Board (1) ROW for approval. (2015-#1) after Board review, motion made by Dietz, 2nd by M. Schluntz to approve. Roll call votes, all ayes. Motion carried. Open discussion followed. Tim would like to create a new position in the Road Department. Tim will advertise for a “foremen floater position”. Tim feels he needs additional help, as he needs to be in the office more. Wages would be \$15.00 to start and \$17.00 after 6 months’ probation. Supervisor Dietz asked if the position is going to be offered internally. Tim replied yes. This position would help with work orders, follow-up and discipline. Motion made by Metzger 2nd by Hanna to create the Foreman floater position in the road department. Roll call votes, all ayes. Motion carried.

Board reviewed the Sheriff report.

With no old business, and with no one from the public to address the Board, Chairman Horwart adjourned the meeting at 2:15.p.m. Meetings in February are the 3rd at 1:00p.m. and the 17th at 10:00 a.m.

Attest,

Janet Dietz, Harlan County Clerk

Doug Horwart, Chairman

(harlancounty.ne.gov)

Claims

General: Clerk of District Court Assn., dues, \$25.00; Dier, Osborn & Cox, P.C. ct. appt. Atty, fees, \$473.38; Emerald City Legal Support, service fees, \$55.00; Hasler Total funds, postage, \$1,500.00; Hilton Omaha, NACO-rooms, \$855.00; Main Street Media, print/pub, \$209.35; NE Clerk of District Court Assn, registration, \$100.00; Nebraska State Assn. of County Treas., Dues, \$75.00; Shell Fleet plus, fuel, \$74.90; Twin Valley Public Power, utilities, \$81.60.



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Road: State of Nebraska, Dept of Labor, unemployment contribution, \$248.00.

Historical Society: Harlan County Historical Society, \$4,453.54